Department of Commerce • National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration • National Weather Service

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Training and Education
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USE OF WEATHER EVENT SIMULATOR

| NOTICE: This publication is available at: http://www.nws.noaa.gov/directives/ . | |
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| Signed Gregory A. Mandt | 7/29/02 Date |
| Director | |
| Office of Climate, | |
| Water, and Weather Services | |

1. Professional Development

Each Weather Forecast Office (WFO) Meteorologist-in-Charge (MIC) will fully integrate the Weather Event Simulator (WES) into office professional development activities with a goal of enhancing staff forecast and warning skills. The MIC will ensure all WFO staff with forecast and warning responsibilities complete at least two appropriate WES simulations prior to the start of each significant weather season.

2. <u>Defining Significant Weather Seasons</u>

The MIC will define significant weather seasons for the WFO. These are the periods where the office focuses their internal preparedness activities, such as drills and heightened awareness, for major forecast and warning challenges. They may vary among offices and can include periods characterized by severe convection, winter weather, heavy rainfall, fire weather, and so on. At the minimum, all offices will define at least two significant weather seasons.